

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY MARCH 21, 2011

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2011–12 REGULAR SESSION

ASSEMBLY BILL

No. 203

Introduced by Assembly Member Brownley

January 27, 2011

An act to amend Section 53300 of, *and to add Section 53304 to*, the Education Code, relating to school intervention.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 203, as amended, Brownley. Public schools: parent empowerment: school intervention.

Existing law requires a local educational agency to implement one of several specified interventions for a school not identified as a persistently lowest achieving school that, after one full school year, fails to meet specified criteria and has a specified percentage of parents and legal guardians of pupils sign a petition requesting the local educational agency to implement at least one of the 5 specified interventions.

~~This bill would make technical, nonsubstantive changes to these provisions.~~

~~The bill also would state the intent of the Legislature to enact legislation that would establish parameters for these provisions to ensure that parents and legal guardians of pupils have access to information regarding these provisions, and to establish a uniform process for gathering and verifying signatures.~~

This bill would require the State Department of Education to provide, on its Internet Web site, information in easy to understand terms regarding that petition process and those 5 intervention options that parents and legal guardians may request. The bill would also make

clarifying changes to, and state legislative intent regarding, those intervention petition provisions.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: ~~no~~-yes.
State-mandated local program: no.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

1 SECTION 1. It is the intent of the Legislature to enact
2 legislation that would establish parameters for the Parent
3 Empowerment Program to ensure that parents and legal guardians
4 of pupils have access to appropriate and adequate information
5 regarding the program and the options for reforms, and to establish
6 a uniform process for gathering and verifying signatures.

7 SEC. 2. Section 53300 of the Education Code is amended to
8 read:

9 53300. For any school not identified as a persistently
10 lowest-achieving school under Section 53201 which, after one full
11 school year, is subject to corrective action pursuant to paragraph
12 (7) of Section 1116(b) of the federal Elementary and Secondary
13 Education Act (20 U.S.C. Sec. 6301 et seq.) and continues to fail
14 to make adequate yearly progress, and has an Academic
15 Performance Index score of less than 800, and where at least
16 one-half of the parents or legal guardians of pupils attending the
17 school, or a combination of at least one-half of the parents or legal
18 guardians of pupils attending the school and the elementary or
19 middle schools that normally matriculate into a middle or high
20 school, as applicable, sign a petition requesting the local
21 educational agency to implement one or more of the four
22 interventions identified pursuant to paragraphs (1) to (4), inclusive,
23 of subdivision (a) of Section 53202 or the federally mandated
24 alternative governance arrangement pursuant to Section
25 1116(b)(8)(B)(v) of the federal Elementary and Secondary
26 Education Act (20 U.S.C. Sec. 6301 et seq.), the local educational
27 agency shall implement the option requested by the parents and
28 legal guardians unless, in a regularly scheduled public hearing,
29 the local educational agency makes a finding in writing stating the
30 reason it cannot implement the specific recommended option and
31 instead designates in writing which of the other options described
32 in this section it will implement in the subsequent school year
33 consistent with requirements specified in federal regulations and

1 guidelines for schools subject to restructuring under Section
2 1116(b)(8) of the federal Elementary and Secondary Education
3 Act (20 U.S.C. Sec. 6301 et seq.) and regulations and guidelines
4 for the four interventions identified pursuant to paragraphs (1) to
5 (4), inclusive, of subdivision (a) of Section 53202.

6 *SEC. 3. Section 53304 is added to the Education Code, to read:*

7 *53304. The department shall provide, on its Internet Web site,*
8 *information regarding the petition process authorized pursuant*
9 *to this article and the five intervention options referenced in Section*
10 *53300 that parents and legal guardians may request. The*
11 *information provided on the Internet Web site shall be written in*
12 *easy to understand terms.*